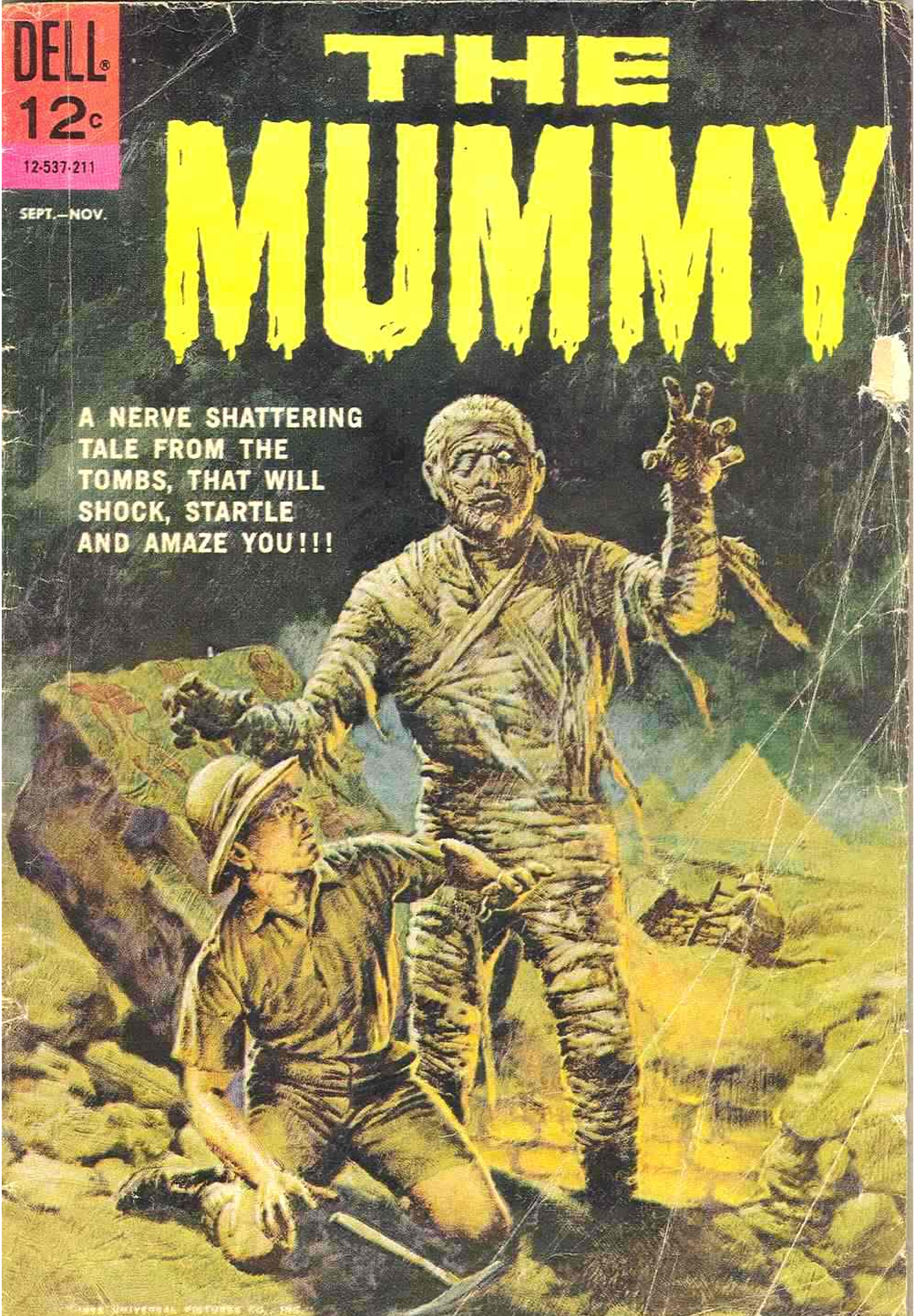
DELL
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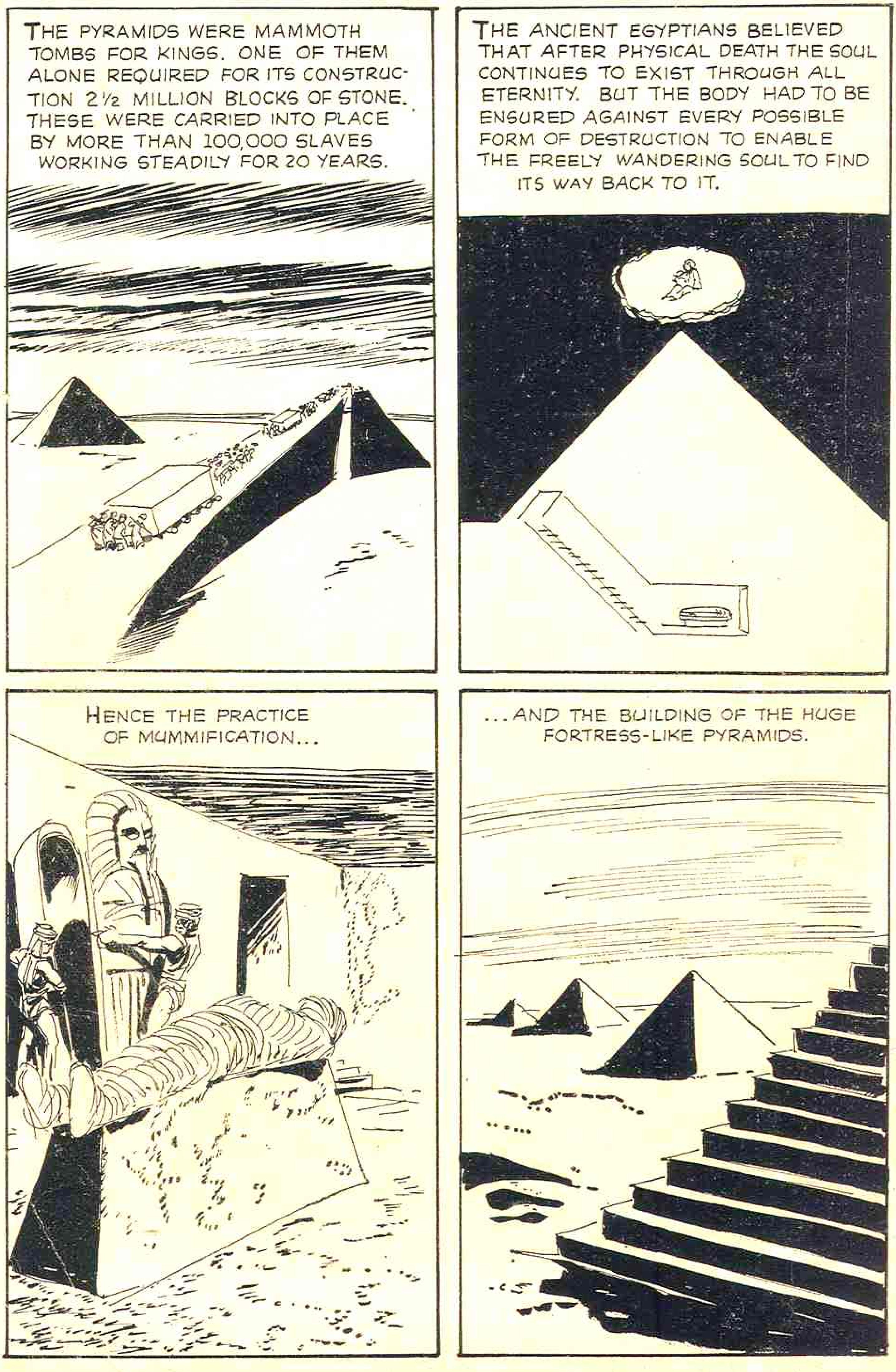
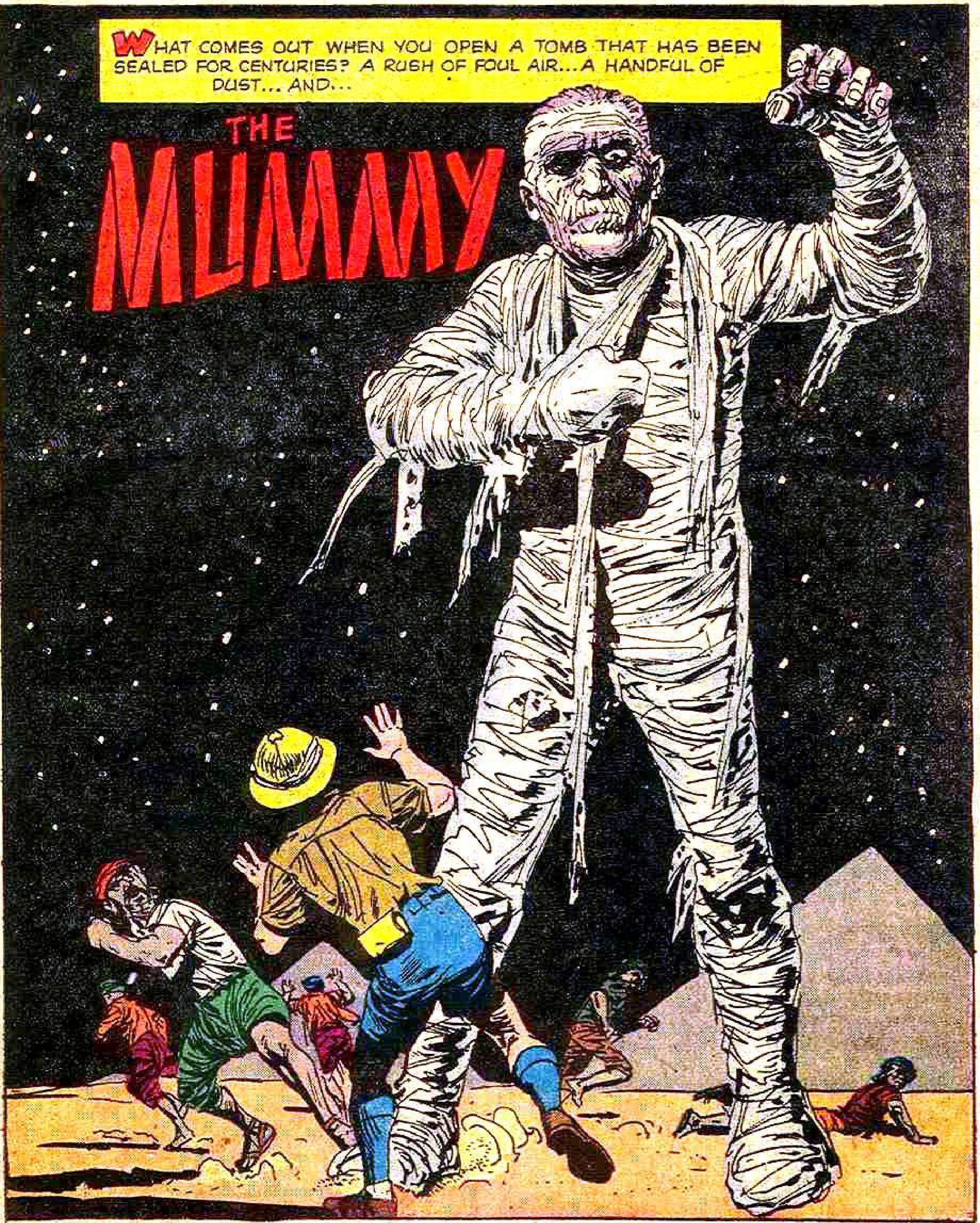
SEPT.—NOV.
THE MUMMY
A NERVE SHATTERING TALE FROM THE TOMBS, THAT WILL SHOCK, STARTLE AND AMAZE YOU!!!


THE PYRAMIDS WERE MAMMOTH TOMBS FOR KINGS. ONE OF THEM ALONE REQUIRED FOR ITS CONSTRUCTION 2½ MILLION BLOCKS OF STONE. THESE WERE CARRIED INTO PLACE BY MORE THAN 100,000 SLAVES WORKING STEADILY FOR 20 YEARS.
THE ANCIENT EGYPTIANS BELIEVED THAT AFTER PHYSICAL DEATH THE SOUL CONTINUES TO EXIST THROUGH ALL ETERNITY. BUT THE BODY HAD TO BE ENSURED AGAINST EVERY POSSIBLE FORM OF DESTRUCTION TO ENABLE THE FREELY WANDERING SOUL TO FIND ITS WAY BACK TO IT.
HENCE THE PRACTICE OF MUMMIFICATION...
...AND THE BUILDING OF THE HUGE FORTRESS-LIKE PYRAMIDS.



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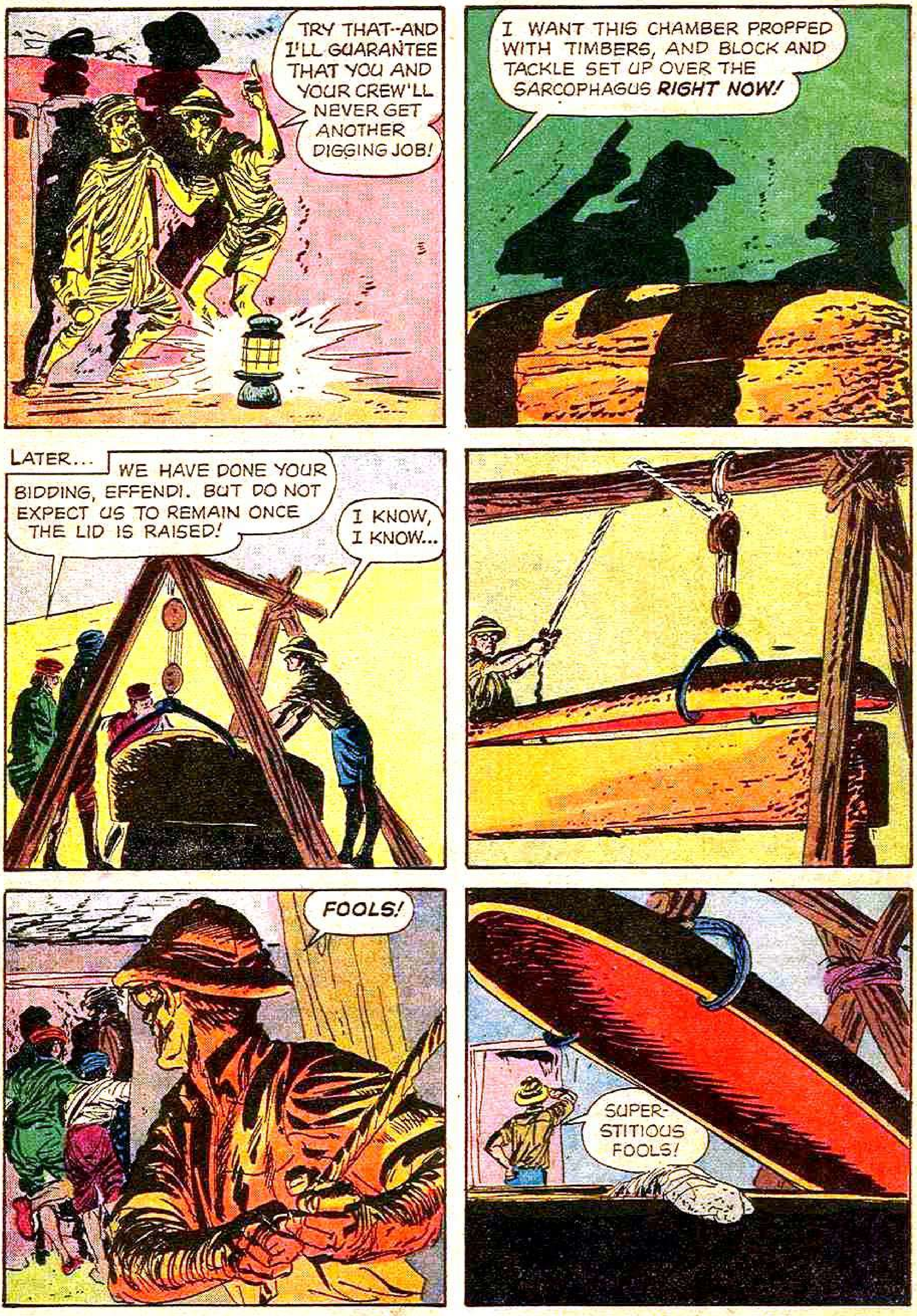
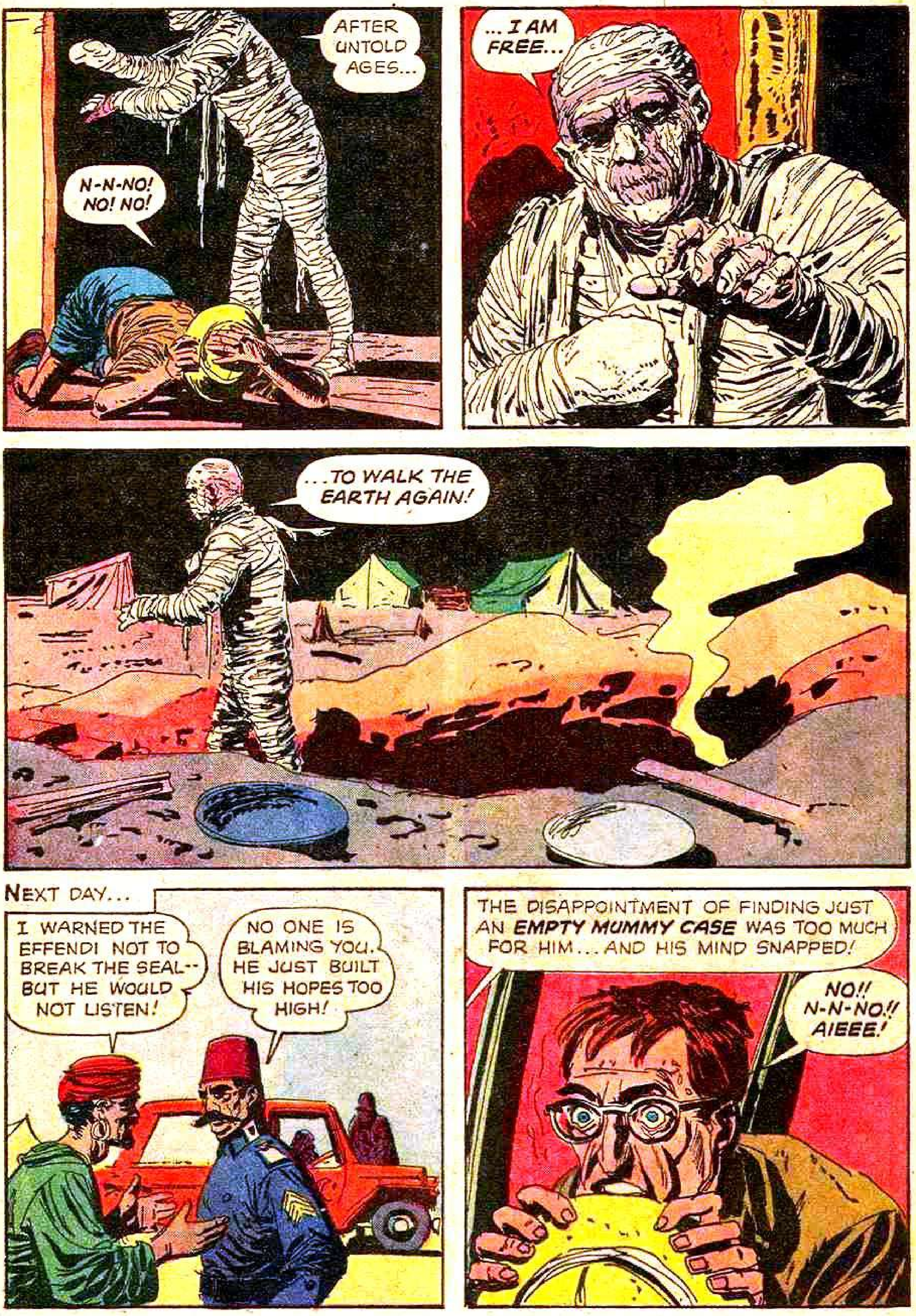
A SHRILL VOICE RISES FROM THE SHADOW-LESS WASTES OF A REMOTE EGYPTIAN DESERT...
EFFENDI, COME QUICKLY! WE HAVE UNCOVERED A STAIRWAY!
TELL THEM TO DIG FASTER! DOUBLE BAKSHEESH FOR EVERYONE!
DOUBLE BAKSHEESH MEANS DOUBLE PAY. WHITE TEETH GLEAM IN THE PITILESS SUN! THE WORK PRESSES ON FEVERISHLY...
TELL THEM IF THEY KEEP WORKING, I'LL GIVE THEM TRIPLE BAKSHEESH!
A DOOR! AND THE SEAL IS UNBROKEN! THE TOMB HAS NEVER BEEN PLUNDERED!
IS IT A ROYAL SEAL?
EFFENDI, THIS PLACE IS ACCURSED! WE MUST FILL IT IN AND FLEE AT ONCE!

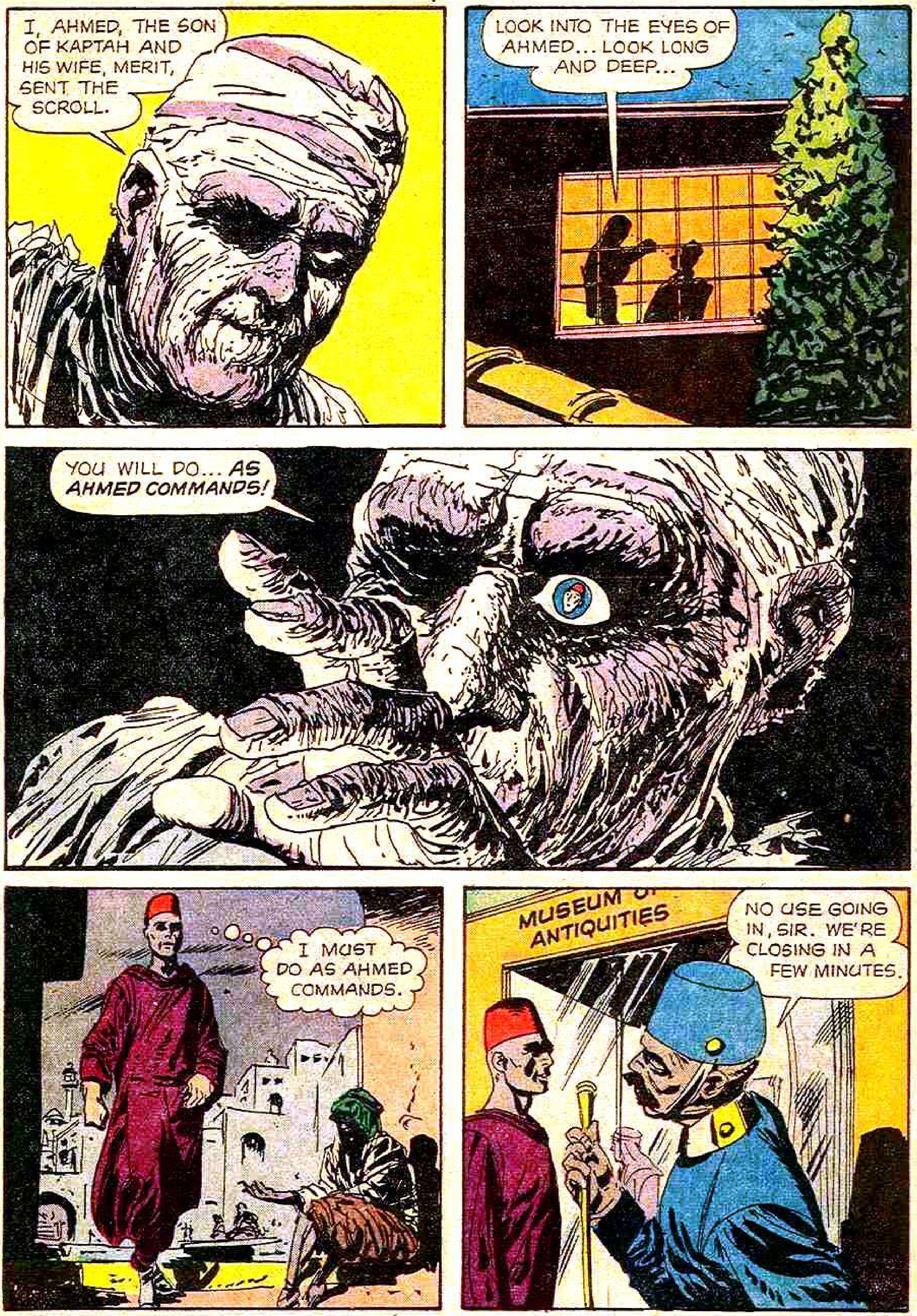
IT IS THE SEAL OF SETH... THE ANCIENT GOD OF EVIL! EFFENDI, I BEG OF YOU--
AND I BEG YOU TO USE YOUR HEAD!
THEY USED THE SEAL OF SETH TO FRIGHTEN GRAVE ROBBERS AWAY FROM THE GRAVE OF A PHARAOH! NOW DRILL THROUGH THAT DOOR!
OH... GROAN ...NO!
NOW WHAT?
THE WALLS OF THE BURIAL CHAMBERS ARE BARE OF HIEROGLYPHICS! THAT CAN MEAN ONLY ONE THING!
THE NAMELESS ONE WHO LIES BURIED HERE WAS SO EVIL... THAT NO ONE DARED RECORD HIS DEEDS! EFFENDI, WE MUST FORGET WE EVER FOUND THIS TOMB!


TRY THAT--AND I'LL GUARANTEE THAT YOU AND YOUR CREW'LL NEVER GET ANOTHER DIGGING JOB!
I WANT THIS CHAMBER PROPPED WITH TIMBERS, AND BLOCK AND TACKLE SET UP OVER THE SARCOPHAGUS **RIGHT NOW!**
LATER...
WE HAVE DONE YOUR BIDDING, EFFENDI. BUT DO NOT EXPECT US TO REMAIN ONCE THE LID IS RAISED!
I KNOW, I KNOW...
FOOLS!
SUPER-STITIOUS FOOLS!

WHEW! SO CLOSE DOWN HERE... I CAN HARDLY BREATHE!
WHAT'S THAT?
MOVING ACROSS THE BURIAL CHAMBER, COMES THE SOUND OF FEET... ONE FOOT DRAGS AFTER THE OTHER... WHISPERING, SLOWLY...
NEAR NOW, NEARER, VERY NEAR...
N-N-NO! NO! NO!
AND NOW, A HOARSE, GUTTERAL VOICE, UNUSED FOR UNTOLD AGES, INTONES AN EERIE CHANT...
MAN OF THE WEST... YOU HAVE FREED ME!


AFTER UNTOLD AGES...
N-N-NO! NO! NO!
...I AM FREE...
...TO WALK THE EARTH AGAIN!
NEXT DAY...
I WARNED THE EFFENDI NOT TO BREAK THE SEAL-- BUT HE WOULD NOT LISTEN!
NO ONE IS BLAMING YOU. HE JUST BUILT HIS HOPES TOO HIGH!
THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF FINDING JUST AN EMPTY MUMMY CASE WAS TOO MUCH FOR HIM... AND HIS MIND SNAPPED!
NO!! N-N-NO!! AIEEE!

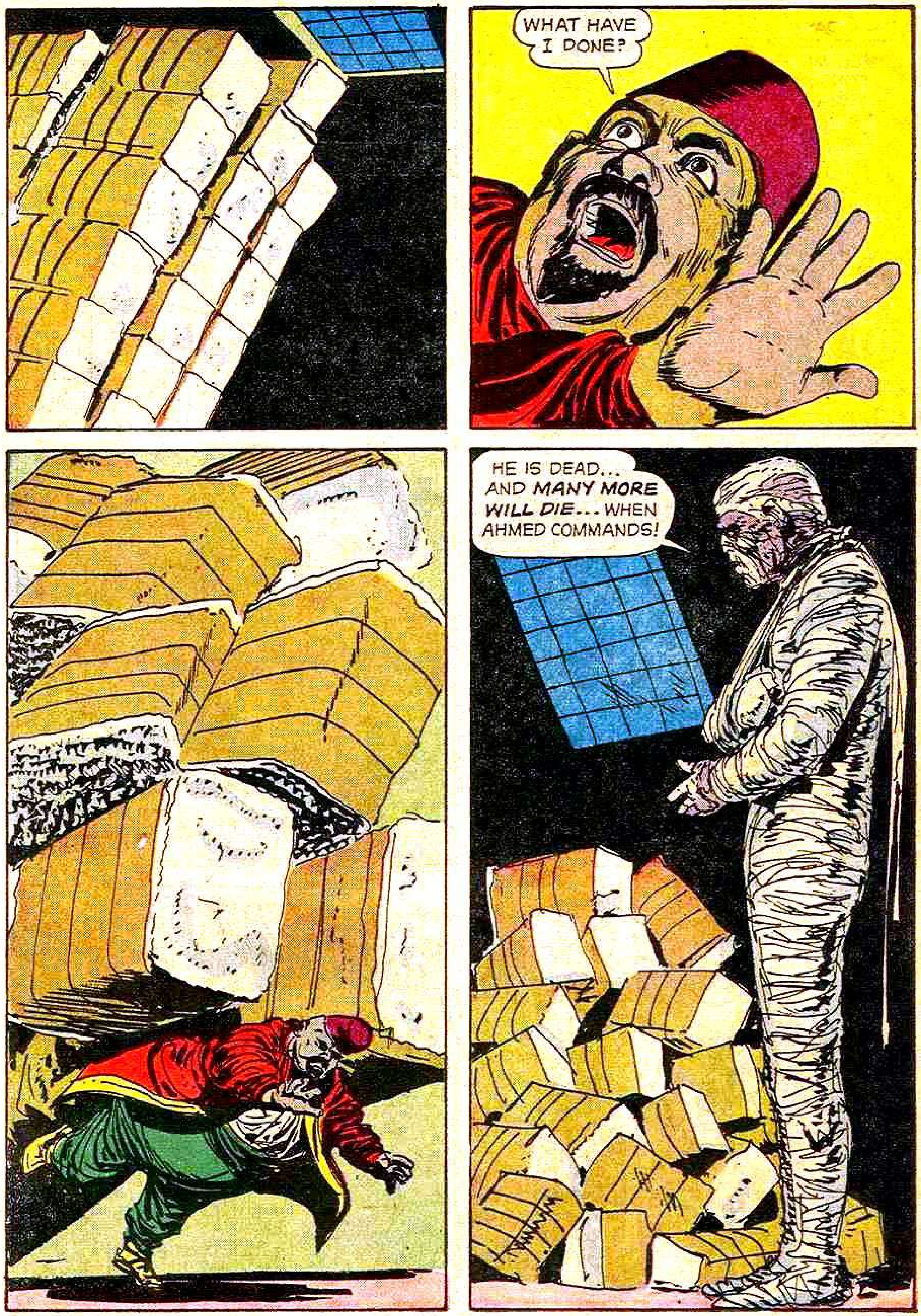
A FEW DAYS LATER, IN THE MANSION OF SENMUT NAGUIB, THE WEALTHY SCION OF ONE OF EGYPT'S OLDEST FAMILIES...
WHAT IS THIS FILTHY SCROLL DO-ING HERE?
WITH MY OWN HANDS, I SET THE TABLE MINUTES AGO... WITH MY OWN EYES, I SAW NOTHING!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE! DISPOSE OF IT AT ONCE!
NOW GO! I WISH TO BE ALONE!
GASP


I, AHMED, THE SON OF KAPTAH AND HIS WIFE, MERIT, SENT THE SCROLL.
LOOK INTO THE EYES OF AHMED... LOOK LONG AND DEEP...
YOU WILL DO... AS AHMED COMMANDS!
I MUST DO AS AHMED COMMANDS.
MUSEUM OF ANTIQUITIES
NO USE GOING IN, SIR. WE'RE CLOSING IN A FEW MINUTES.

...MUST DO... AS AHMED COMMANDS...
AUTHENTIC OLD KINGDOM BURIAL CHAMBER
MUST ENTER... THE BURIAL CHAMBER...
MUST SEARCH ALONG THE WALL ...SEARCH...UNTIL I FIND A PULL RING...
THERE IS A FAINT SCRAPING OF STONE AGAINST STONE. A HUGE SLAB TURNS ON A HIDDEN PIVOT...
...AND...
BOOM!

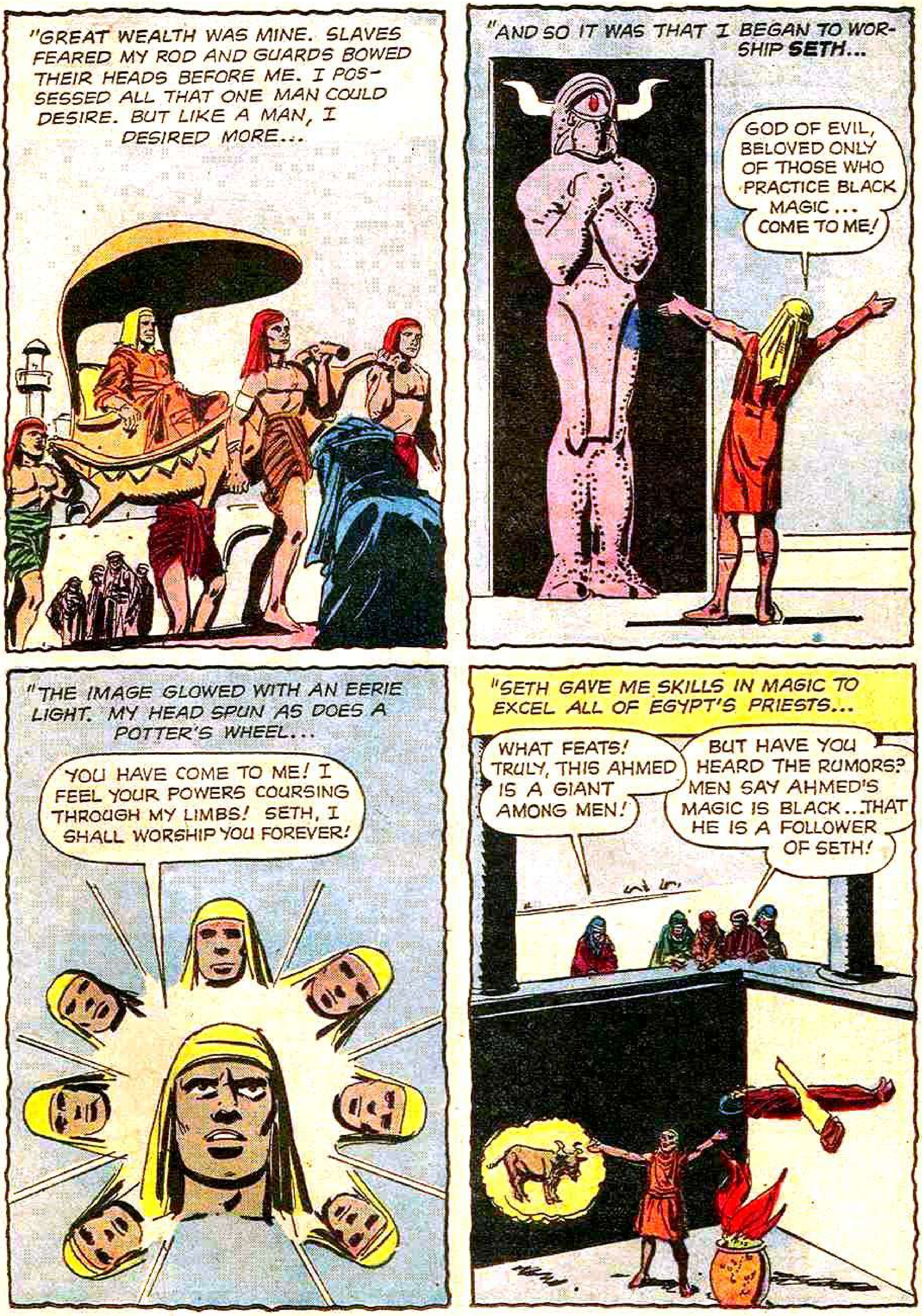
JOLTED AWAKE BY THE REVERBERATING BOOM, SEMNET NAGUIB'S EYES TURN BRIGHT WITH HORROR.
WHAT HAVE I DONE?
HELP! I'M LOCKED IN! SOMEBODY GET ME OUT OF HERE! HELP!!
HELP! I CAN'T... BREATHE.. HARDLY ANY AIR IN HERE... HELP!!
WE'RE DOING THE BEST WE CAN!
BRRP-BR-RRP!
BUT THEIR BEST IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH. FOR WHEN THEY FINALLY BREAK IN...
HE'S DEAD!

ABOUT A WEEK LATER...
I MUST DO... AS AHMED COMMANDS!
I MUST ENTER...THE WAREHOUSE!
I MUST WIELD THE AXE!..
...WITH ALL MY STRENGTH!
THE BLADE SWINGS INSANELY-- CRASHING, SEVERING. UP, DOWN, UP, DOWN...
...UNTIL...


WHAT HAVE I DONE?
HE IS DEAD... AND MANY MORE WILL DIE... WHEN AHMED COMMANDS!

A FEW DAYS LATER...
TELL ME, BART, IS IT CONSIDERED POLITE IN AMERICA TO STARE SO AT A YOUNG LADY?
YOU'RE OUT OF LUCK, KIPA. WHEN A GIRL HAS A CLASSIC EGYPTIAN PROFILE LIKE YOURS, A RED-BLOODED YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGIST JUST HAS TO STARE!
JUST THEN...
I JUST FOUND THIS INSIDE THE DOOR. IT IS ADDRESSED TO YOU!
A SCROLL WITH HIEROGLYPHICS ADDRESSED TO ME? IT MUST BE A MISTAKE!
MMM... MIND IF I LOOK IT OVER?
I WILL GO SHOPPING, AND LET YOU DECIPHER THE ANCIENT WRITING IN PEACE!

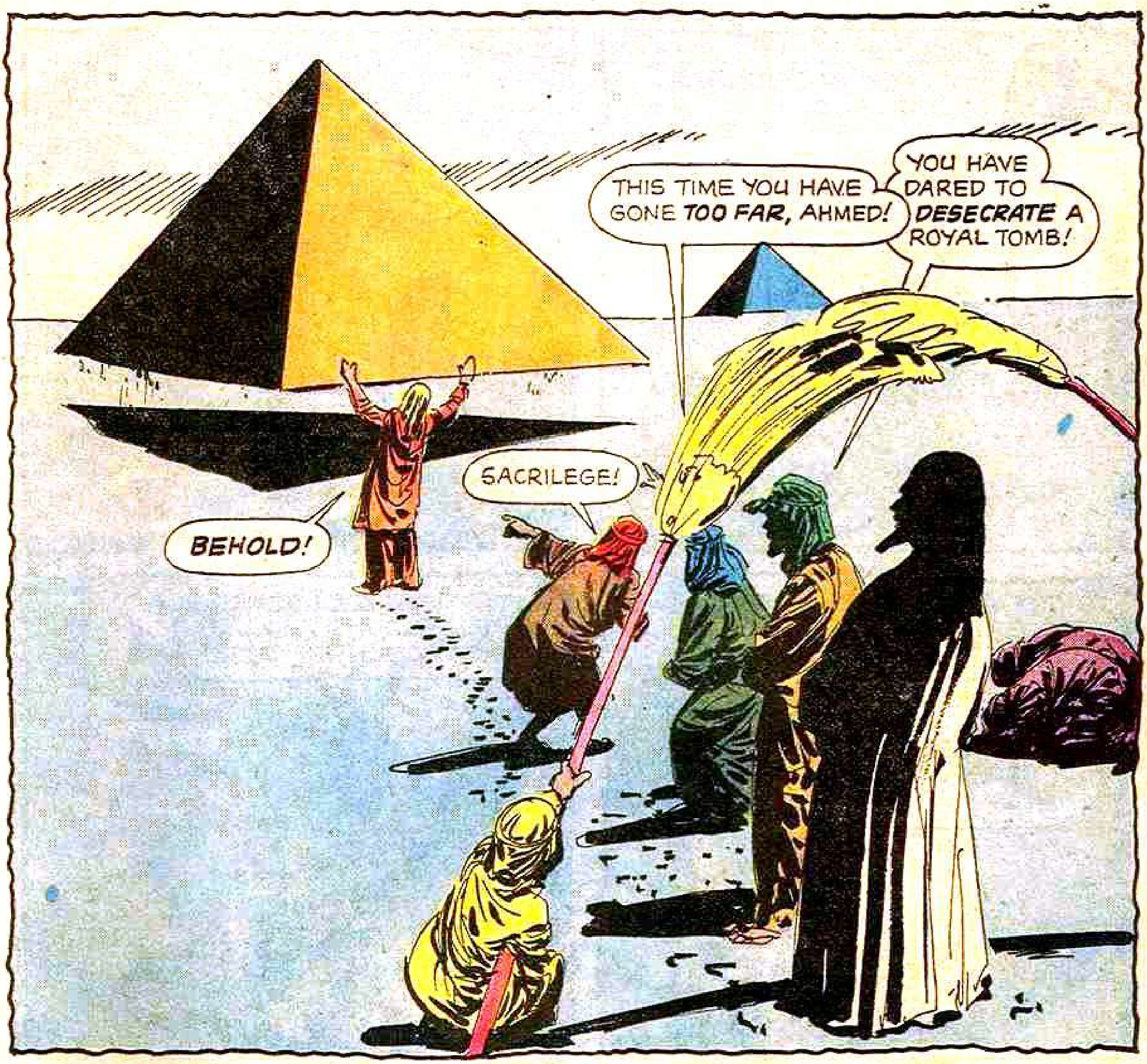
LATER...
WELL, BART, HAVE YOU FINISHED WITH--
BART! YOU HAVE SUCH A STRANGE LOOK ON YOUR FACE!
THIS SCROLL, KIPA... IT'S A DEATH NOTICE! SOMEONE WHO LIVED OVER 5,000 YEARS AGO IS PLANNING TO KILL YOU!
B-BART, YOU MUST BE JOKING!
I WISH I WERE! KIPA, THIS IS HOW THE SCROLL STARTS...
"I, AHMED, THE SON OF KAPTAH AND HIS WIFE, MERIT, WRITE THIS. I DO NOT WRITE IT FOR GLORY...
"...FOR I HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF GLORY IN MY FIRST LIFE IN THE OLD KINGDOM...


"GREAT WEALTH WAS MINE. SLAVES FEARED MY ROD AND GUARDS BOWED THEIR HEADS BEFORE ME. I POSSESSED ALL THAT ONE MAN COULD DESIRE. BUT LIKE A MAN, I DESIRED MORE...
"AND SO IT WAS THAT I BEGAN TO WORSHIP SETH...
GOD OF EVIL, BELOVED ONLY OF THOSE WHO PRACTICE BLACK MAGIC... COME TO ME!
"THE IMAGE GLOWED WITH AN EERIE LIGHT. MY HEAD SPUN AS DOES A POTTER'S WHEEL...
YOU HAVE COME TO ME! I FEEL YOUR POWERS COURSING THROUGH MY LIMBS! SETH, I SHALL WORSHIP YOU FOREVER!
"SETH GAVE ME SKILLS IN MAGIC TO EXCEL ALL OF EGYPT'S PRIESTS...
WHAT FEATS! TRULY, THIS AHMED IS A GIANT AMONG MEN!
BUT HAVE YOU HEARD THE RUMORS? MEN SAY AHMED'S MAGIC IS BLACK...THAT HE IS A FOLLOWER OF SETH!

"MY FEATS GREW MORE WONDROUS...
EVERY DAY AHMED SURPASSES HIMSELF!
BUT WHY DOES HE STAY AWAY FROM THE TEMPLE? IS IT BECAUSE HE WORSHIPS SETH?
"...UNTIL, AT LAST, I WAS READY...
WHEN THE PHAROAH SEES MY MAGIC POWERS, HE WILL INSCRIBE MY NAME IN HIS GOLDEN BOOK. AND MY WORDS WILL OUTWEIGH THOSE OF HIS MIGHTY COUNCILORS.
"TO WHERE THE GREAT PHAROAH SAT, IN ALL HIS MAJESTY, I WENT AND PROSTRATED MYSELF...
WHAT SAY MY COUNCILORS TO AHMED'S PLEA THAT I WATCH HIM PERFORM GREAT FEATS OF MAGIC?
SEND HIM AWAY, GREAT ONE!
IT IS WHISPERED THAT HE WORSHIPS THE EVIL GOD SETH!
EVIL BEGETS EVIL!

I HAVE HEARD YOUR COUNCIL, AND I HAVE DECIDED...
I WILL SEE YOUR MAGIC, AHMED!
"TO THE ROYAL STABLES I LED THE PHAROAH AND HIS JEALOUS COUNCILORS. THERE I CHANTED. MY VOICE DRONED ON AND ON...
AHMED'S CHANT IS LIKE THE CROAKING OF A SICKLY STORK!
THE SACRED BULL STIRS RESTLESSLY. HE KNOWS THAT NOTHING OF CONSEQUENCE WILL HAPPEN.
"BUT THEN..."
BEHOLD! THE SACRED BULL HAS SPROUTED WINGS!
YOUR MAGIC SEEMS STRONG, AHMED. CAN YOU SHOW ME MORE?

"NEXT I LED THEM TO THE NILE RIVER. AND THERE...
BEHOLD! I HAVE MADE THE WATERS OF THE GREAT RIVER RUSH TOGETHER AND FORM A COLUMN THAT RISES TO THE CLOUDS!
I WOULD SEE MORE, AHMED!
THEN FOLLOW ME TO THE GREAT PYRAMID, OH PHAROAH!
AHMED HAS FOUND FAVOR IN THE EYES OF THE PHAROAH!
SOON WE COUNCILORS WILL BE SHORN OF ALL OUR POWERS!
AHMED MUST BE STOPPED!
BUT HOW--
SHHHH!
GASP


THIS TIME YOU HAVE GONE TOO FAR, AHMED!
YOU HAVE DARED TO DESECRATE A ROYAL TOMB!
SACRILEGE!
BEHOLD!

PUNISH AHMED!
YOU OWE IT TO YOUR ANCESTORS, OH PHAROAH!
PUNISH HIM!

I HAVE HEARD YOUR COUNSEL, AND I HAVE DECIDED...

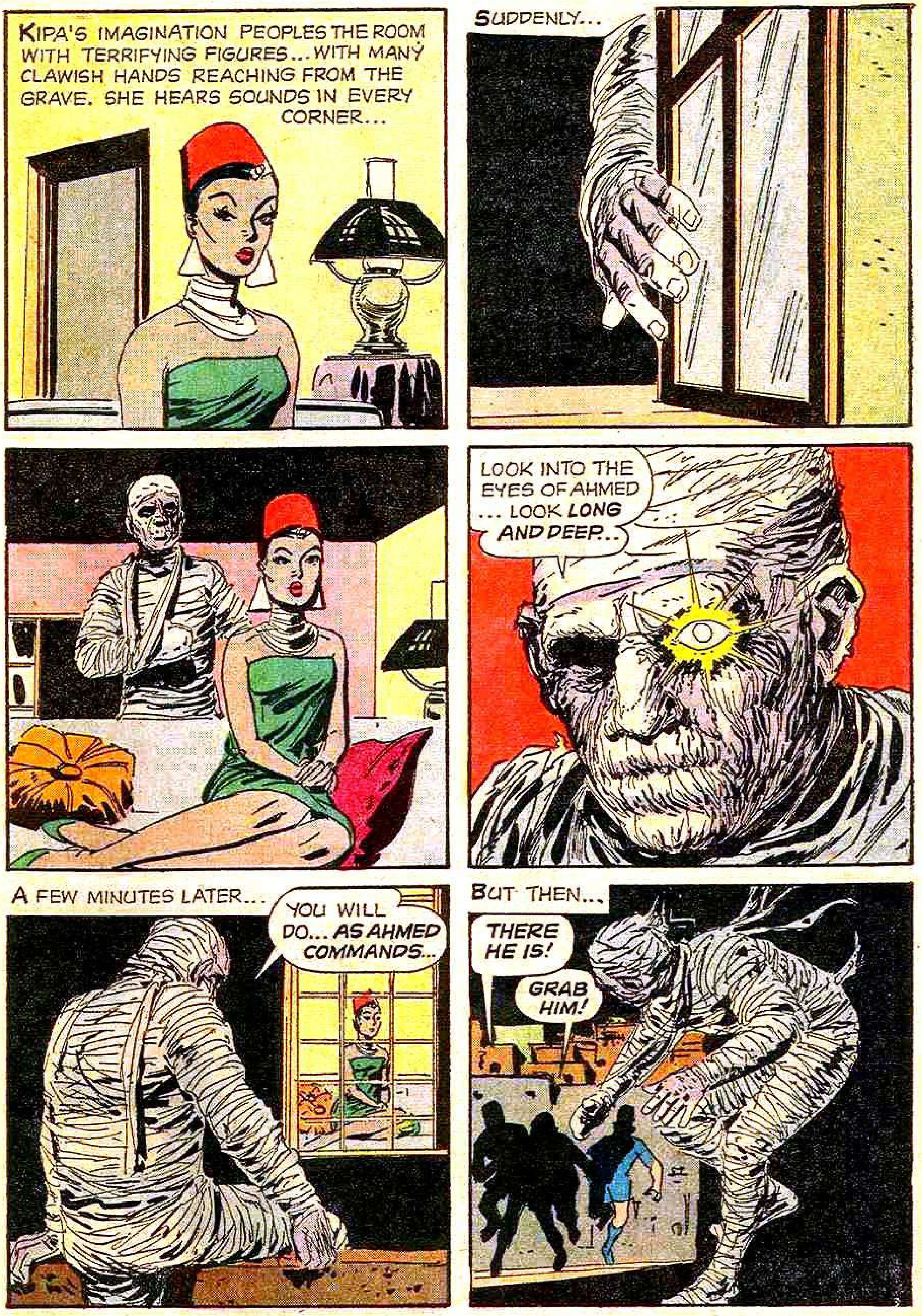
MISERABLE ONE! CUR! I SEE NOW WHERE YOUR BLACK MAGIC CAN LEAD TO! I SEE THE NEED TO WIPE IT OUT!
HE IS YOURS! MAKE CERTAIN THAT HE DEPARTS FROM LIFE FOREVER!
"TO THE HOUSE OF DEATH THEY DRAGGED ME...
TO INSURE THE DEATH OF AHMED'S EVIL SOUL AS WELL AS THAT OF HIS PHYSICAL BODY, LET HIM BE BOUND ALIVE-- IN MUMMY WRAPPINGS!
LET HIM THEN BE BURIED IN A NAMELESS TOMB AND LEFT TO DIE CHOKING IN THE DARK!
NO! NO!
NO...
MPPF! GLLB!

"SLAVES BORE ME OUT TO THE DESERT...
THE TOMB IS FILLED IN, MASTER! OUR WORK IS DONE!
YOUR WORDS ARE WELL CHOSEN! FOR NEVER WILL YOU WORK AGAIN!
SNAP!
UHH-HH...
LET THE SLAVES LIE HERE... TO ROT ON THE BLAZING SANDS!
AND LET THE SECRET OF THE NAMELESS TOMB DIE WITH US!
"YEARS CREPT BY. THE SUN BURNED STEADILY, AND THE NILE WIND BLEW. THE SLAVES' FLESH SLOWLY MELTED...

"CENTURIES CREPT BY. THE BONES POWDERED INTO FINE DUST, AND BLEW AWAY...
"BUT DOWN IN THE CHOKING DARKNESS OF THE TOMB..."
SETH'S POWERS STILL STIR WITHIN ME... I STILL LIVE... FOR VENGEANCE!
"AND THEN IT HAPPENED..."
NO! NO!
"NOW I AM FREE. AND VENGEANCE WILL BE MINE! ALL DESCENDANTS OF...
"..THE PHAROAH'S COUNCILORS WILL NOW DIE AS I WAS MEANT TO DIE. NOT ONE WILL BE SPARED..."
BUT IT'S ALL SO IN-CREDIBLE!
IS IT?

A NAMELESS TOMB WITH THE SEAL OF SETH WAS UNCOVERED A FEW WEEKS AGO. THE ARCHAEOLOGIST WAS LEFT ALONE IN THE TOMB.
WHEN HIS MEN RETURNED, THEY FOUND HIM INSANE WITH TERROR, AND THE MUMMY CASE WAS EMPTY! KIPA, YOU'RE COMING WITH ME TO THE POLICE!
SALAH MERIT HEARS THE GRISLY TALE. AND THEN...
FANTASTIC! BUT THEN SO IS MUCH OF LIFE. FOR INSTANCE, I HAVE IN MY FILES TWO RECENT UNSOLVED MURDERS...
...BOTH VICTIMS--LIKE YOU, KIPA--WERE MEMBERS OF FAMILIES THAT GO BACK TO THE OLD KINGDOM. BOTH RECEIVED SCROLLS BEFORE THEIR DEATH. AND BOTH DIED BY SUFFOCATION... AND "ENTOMBED".
S-SO?
SO:... IN BOTH CASES, DEATH FOLLOWED THE SCROLL BY LESS THAN TWELVE HOURS!

T-THAT *SOB* MEANS THE MUMMY WILL STRIKE TONIGHT!
EXACTLY! WE MUST DEVISE A PLAN TO SAFEGUARD YOU.
THERE IS SOMETHING I ONCE READ... ANOTHER ANCIENT SCROLL...
YES? IT HAD BETTER BE GOOD. THIS YOUNG LADY'S LIFE DEPENDS ON IT!
LATER...
AND KIPA SITS-- ALONE AND WAITING...


KIPA'S IMAGINATION PEOPLES THE ROOM WITH TERRIFYING FIGURES... WITH MANY CLAWISH HANDS REACHING FROM THE GRAVE. SHE HEARS SOUNDS IN EVERY CORNER...
SUDDENLY...
LOOK INTO THE EYES OF AHMED ... LOOK LONG AND DEEP..
A FEW MINUTES LATER...
YOU WILL DO... AS AHMED COMMANDS...
BUT THEN...
THERE HE IS!
GRAB HIM!

HOLD HIM!
W-WE CAN'T!
HE'S GETTING AWAY!
NO, HE ISN'T!
UNNNH!
GET HANDCUFFS ON HIM! QUICK!
YOUR AMERICAN FOOTBALL TACKLE WAS MOST EFFECTIVE, MR. GRIFFIN!
GUARD HIM CAREFULLY! BUT, WHATEVER YOU DO-- DON'T LET HIS EYES MEET YOURS!
WE'LL BE RIGHT DOWN-- AS SOON AS WE CHECK ON THE GIRL!
KIPA!
OH, BART!
YOU MAY REMOVE THE CONTACT LENSES NOW!

THEY SHIELDED YOU FROM THE MUMMY'S HYPNOTIC STARE. THEIR WORK IS DONE.
BART, HOW CAN I EVER THANK YOU?
LUCKILY I REMEMBERED ANOTHER SCROLL OF AN ANCIENT MAGICIAN LIKE AHMED. IT SAID HIS POWERS WERE MAINLY HYPNOTIC!
YOU DESERVE THE CREDIT, KIPA. IT TOOK A LOT OF COURAGE TO SIT AND ACT AS BAIT FOR THE MUMMY.
DRIVE US DIRECTLY TO HEADQUARTERS! TWO MOTORCYCLES IN FRONT, AND TWO IN BACK, ALL THE WAY!
THE CONVOY STARTS OUT...
AT FIRST EVERYTHING GOES SMOOTHLY...
EE-E E EE-EEE-E!

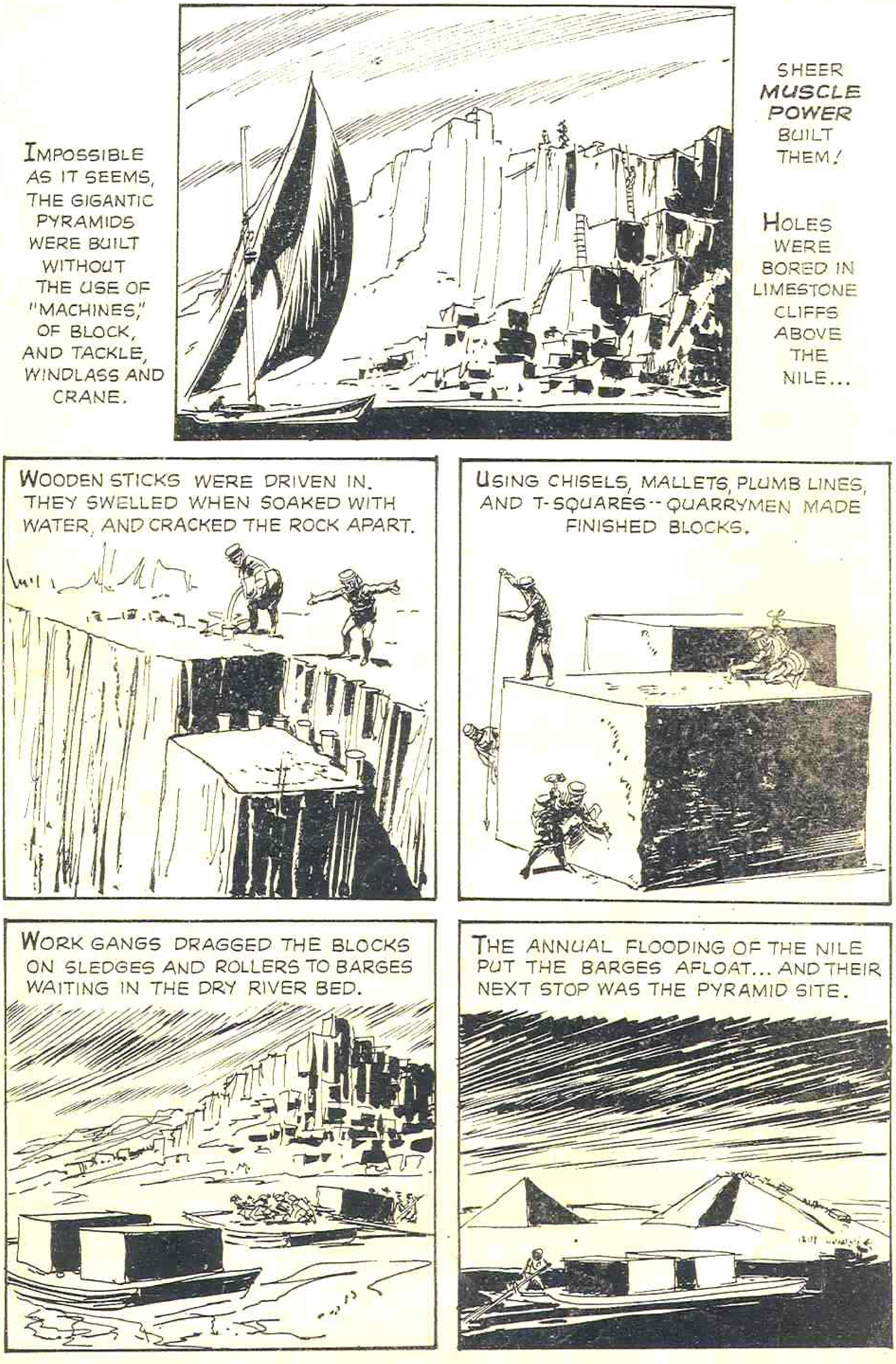
BUT THEN, FOR ONE BRIEF MOMENT, THE DRIVER GLANCES UP AT THE REAR-VIEW MIRROR...
GASP
ONE BRIEF MOMENT IS ENOUGH...
HEAR MY THOUGHTS... AND DO AS AHMED COMMANDS...
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? STOP!
STOP!

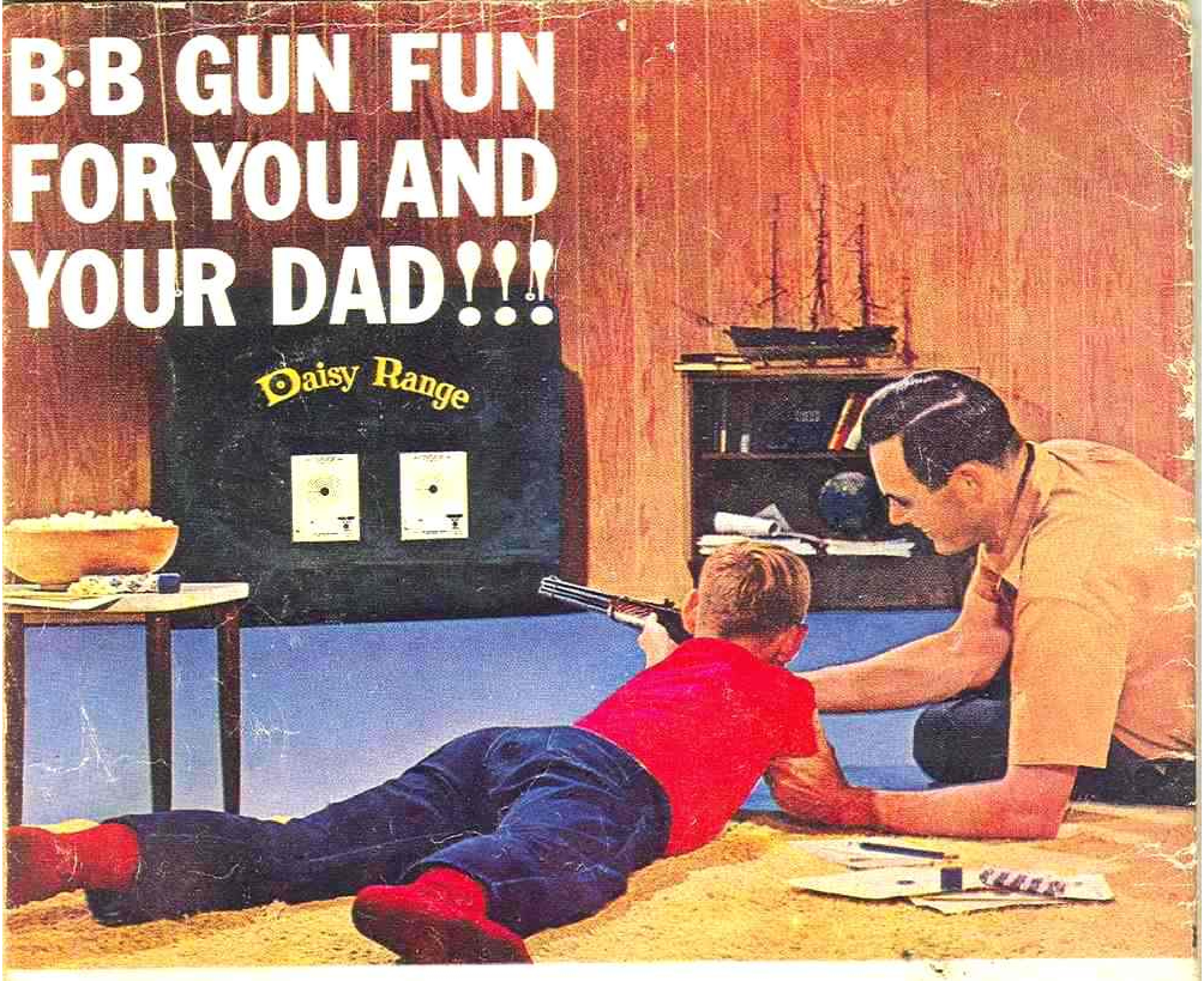
I-- I CAN'T PULL HIS HANDS OFF THE WHEEL! HE'S IN A TRANCE!
GET DOWN!
WE'RE GOING TO CRASH INTO THAT TROLLEY!
CRACK!
YOU!
DON'T SHOOT! BULLETS WILL RICOCHET IN HERE! WE CAN'T CHANCE IT!
AND DON'T LOOK INTO HIS EYES!

YOU DO WELL TO FEAR THE EYES OF AHMED... WINDS GNAW AT STONE, AND AFTER CENTURIES, STONE TURNS INTO DUST!..
BUT AHMED'S POWERS ARE STRONGER THAN STONE... THEY CAN WITHSTAND THE PASSING CENTURIES...
BEHOLD NOW... THE POWER OF AHMED'S EYES!
T-THE HAND-CUFFS! THEY'RE MELTING!
JUST THEN...
CRASH!

HE'S GETTING AWAY! HE'S HEADING FOR THE PYRAMID!
WHERE IS HE? DO YOU SEE HIM?
UP THERE! HE'S CLIMB-ING UP TO THE TOP!
YOU SET A TRAP FOR AHMED TONIGHT ... NOW AHMED HAS SET A TRAP FOR YOU...
...FOR NOW, YOU WILL **MEET MY EYES**...
...AND WHEN YOU MEET THE EYES OF AHMED...

NO! NO!
AIEE!
W-WHAT HAPPENED?
REMEMBER HE SAID WHEN WIND GNAWS AT STONE FOR CENTURIES, IT TURNS TO DUST? WELL, THE WEATHERED ROCK UP THERE GAVE WAY...
NOTHING LEFT TO DO BUT PICK UP THE PIECES!
BUT WHEN THEY REACH THE BOTTOM...
N-NOTHING HERE...ONLY MUMMY WRAPPINGS!
A SUDDEN WIND WHIPS THEIR CHILLED FACES. THEY HEAR FAINT, FAR, EERIE LAUGHTER... HIGH, HIGH, AND GONE. THEY SHUDDER...
...FOR THEY KNOW...THE MUMMY WILL RETURN!


IMPOSSIBLE AS IT SEEMS, THE GIGANTIC PYRAMIDS WERE BUILT WITHOUT THE USE OF "MACHINES," OF BLOCK, AND TACKLE, WINDLASS AND CRANE.
SHEER MUSCLE POWER BUILT THEM!
HOLES WERE BORED IN LIMESTONE CLIFFS ABOVE THE NILE...
WOODEN STICKS WERE DRIVEN IN. THEY SWELLED WHEN SOAKED WITH WATER, AND CRACKED THE ROCK APART.
USING CHISELS, MALLETS, PLUMB LINES, AND T-SQUARES-- QUARRYMEN MADE FINISHED BLOCKS.
WORK GANGS DRAGGED THE BLOCKS ON SLEDGES AND ROLLERS TO BARGES WAITING IN THE DRY RIVER BED.
THE ANNUAL FLOODING OF THE NILE PUT THE BARGES AFLOAT... AND THEIR NEXT STOP WAS THE PYRAMID SITE.



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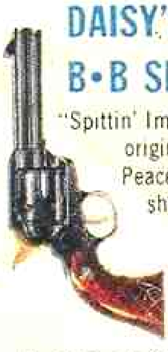

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